

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE 38

PEOPLE  
23 November 1981

# EX-C.I.A. AGENT EDW TALKS ABOUT HIS MY ALLEGIANC

**INTERVIEW**



Interpol's only likeness of Wilson is the old passport picture above. Grayer now, Wilson keeps two pet goats in his home-office HQ, a seaside villa in Tripoli.



PETER J. MALATESTA

To the CIA, he is a rogue, an agent for no one but himself. To the FBI, he is a much-wanted fugitive from justice. But to the fanatical; outlaw regime of Libya's Col. Muammar Qaddafi, Edwin P. Wilson, 53, is a precious ally. By his own account, Wilson is nothing more than a very successful middleman in Libya's import-export trade. Yet he has also served to whet Qaddafi's appetite for military adventure by supplying airplane mechanics and pilots for the Libyan Air Force. There is mounting evidence, moreover, that his activities have been not only unsavory but unlawful as well. A four-count federal indictment handed down in Washington last year charges that Wilson and business partner Frank Terpil, another former CIA agent, supplied Qaddafi's government with explosives, in violation of a federal arms shipment statute. They are also accused of conspiring with a group of Cuban exiles to assassinate an enemy of Qaddafi in Egypt. "I am innocent of all the charges," says Wilson, but for the moment he is remaining in Libya, among friends. "I



HARRY BLANKSON

"There is an unmistakable air of intrigue about Mr. Wilson and his operations," observes interviewer Peter Malatesta, left.

"He's done nothing to hurt the U.S." The U.S. government disagrees; the

Kevin Mulcahy, has charged that Wilson attempted to buy a ground-to-air Redeye missile for Libya. Mulcahy speculates that the weapon was intended to bring down a jumbo jet as an incontrovertible demonstration of terrorist might. Another of Wilson's former employees, ex-Green Beret Eugene Tafoya, is currently on trial in Colorado for shooting a Libyan dissident there; Tafoya allegedly hid out after the shooting in a house near London which belongs to Wilson. John Anthony Stubbs, a British pilot hired by Libya's